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PATENT APPLICATION

N 7-29-00

35.C14183

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents along with a European Search Report are also enclosed.

In lieu of a translation of the non-English document (EP 0463 229 A1), the U.S. counterpart patent (U.S. Patent 5,197,531) is submitted.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

It is hereby certified that each item of information in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 2 4 L

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